

Message Text

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PAGE 01 EC BRU 05034 191811Z

14

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1201

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 2137

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EEC

SUBJECT: EC/ACP: STATUS OF REVERSE PREFERENCES

1. THE MISSION HAS OBTAINED A COPY OF AN EC COMMISSION INTERNAL DOCUMENT WHICH SETS OUT THE TARIFF REGIMES BEING (OR ABOUT TO BE) APPLIED BY ACPS UNDER ARTICLE 7 OF THE LOME CONVENTION. (UNDER ARTICLE 7 RECIPROCAL PREFERENCES FOR EC PRODUCTS ARE NO LONGER OBLIGATORY, AS THEY WERE UNDER THE FORMER YAOUNDE AND COMMONWEALTH ARRANGEMENTS.) THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE DOCUMENT IS BASED ON NOTIFICATIONS TO THE COMMISSION FROM THE ACP STATES AND WAS THE MOST RECENT INFORMATION AVAILABLE IN THE EC AS OF MAY 1. WE ARE POUCHING THIS DOCUMENT TO THE DEPARTMENT AND MISSION GENEVA AND SUMMARIZING ITS CONTENTS AS FOLLOWS:

2. MAINTENANCE OF REVERSE PREFERENCES: THE FOLLOWING 6 ACP STATES HAVE INDICATED THEIR INTENTION TO CONTINUE FULL OR PARTIAL PREFERENCES TO THE EC, EXPANDING THOSE PREFERENCES FROM THE ORIGINAL SIX MEMBER STATES TO THE EC OF NINE WHERE APPROPRIATE: MALI, MAURITANIA, MAURITIUS, NIGER, SENEGAL AND UPPER VOLTA. (MAURITIUS WILL ALSO GIVE THE US (ALONE) THE SAME PREFERENCE APPARENTLY IT IS LINKED TO US/GSP.)

3. ELIMINATION OF REVERSE PREFERENCES: THE FOLLOWING 29 ACP
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PAGE 02 EC BRU 05034 191811Z

STATES HAVE (A) INDICATED THEIR INTENTION TO ELIMINATE

PREFERENCES TO THE EC, (B) HAVE ALREADY ELIMINATED THEM, OR
(C) ARE MAINTAINING AN ALREADY NON-PREFERENTIAL SYSTEM:
BAHAMAS, BENIN, BOTSWANA, BURUNDI, CAMEROON, CENTRAL AFRICAN
REPUBLIC, CHAD, CONGO-BRAZZAVILLE, FIJI, GABON, GAMBIA, GHANA,
GUYANA, IVORY COAST, KENYA, LESOTHO, LIBERIA, MADAGASCAR, MALAWI,
NIGERIA, RWANDA, SOMALIA, SUDAN, SWAZILAND, TANZANIA, TOGO,
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, WESTERN SAMOA AND ZAIRE.

4. ELEVEN ACP STATES HAVE NOT YET INDICATED THEIR INTENTIONS TO
THE COMMISSION. OF THESE, HOWEVER, FOUR BELONG TO REGIONAL CUSTOMS
UNIONS (BARBADOS, GRENADA, JAMAICA IN CARICOM; UGANDA IN THE EAST
AFRICAN COMMUNITY) AND ARE EXPECTED TO FOLLOW SUIT WITH THEIR
FELLOW MEMBERS, ALL OF WHOM HAVE INDICATED THAT THERE WILL BE NO
REVERSE PREFERENCES FOR THE EC. THE OTHERS YET TO REPLY ARE
ETHIOPIA, GUINEA, GUINEA-BISSAU, EQUATORIAL GUINEA, SIERRA LEONE
AND TONGA.

5. DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS THIS MESSAGE TO ACP POSTS AS
APPROPRIATE. HINTON

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